INFORMATION LETTER

Not for Publication **NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION** For Members Only

No. 1011 Washington, D. C. November 18, 1944

1945 FOOD PRODUCTION GOALS ANNOUNCED BY WFA

Total Requirements of Vegetables for Canning Are Slightly Less Than Last Year

Estimated total requirements during the calendar year 1945 for all vegetables for processing (canned and frozen) are 87 per cent of the 1944 estimated requirements. These requirements are equal to 104 per cent of the 1944 indicated pack, 103 per cent of the 1943 pack, and 98 per cent of the 1942 pack, the War Food Administration has announced.

Civilian requirements are calculated to be 73 per cent of the total requirements. Requirements for the four major processing vegetables (tomatoes, sweet corn, green peas, and snap beans) which comprise 85 per cent of the total pack are 104 per cent of the 1944 pack, 101 per cent of the 1943 pack, 94 per cent of the 1942 pack, and 149 per cent of the 1937-41 average pack. Estimated requirements for individual vegetables along with comparative production figures, prices, and other data have been listed by the WFA as follows:

Asparagus. The 1944 pack of canned asparagus is estimated at 4,300,000 cases (basis 24/No. 2 cans), an increase of 8 per cent over the 1943 pack and 48 per cent more than the 1937-41 average.

The 1944 pack of frozen asparagus is estimated at 11,000,000 pounds, a decline of 8 per cent from 1943, but 57 per cent larger than the five-year (1937-41) average.

California growers received an average price of $151.30 a ton in 1943, compared with $118.15 in 1942 and a ten-year (1933-42) average of $74.80.

In view of the possibility that prices may recede from wartime levels in the postwar years, with simultaneous shrinkage in consumer purchasing power, it would appear to be unwise to plant new acreage to asparagus at present wartime costs.

Lima Beans. Acreage planted in 1944 totaled 66,090, one of the largest on record, an increase of 3 per cent over 1943 and 23 per cent larger than the 1937-41 average.

Prices were supported by the Government in 1944 at levels which would reflect averages in different sections of the country ranging from $95 to $128 a ton to growers. This compares with an average price received by growers in 1943 of $103.21 and a five-year (1937-41) average of $67.26 a ton.

Restrictions on the use of cold storage space for frozen fruits and vegetables may tend to limit the increase of the frozen pack in 1945. An acreage 8 per cent larger than that planted in 1944 would, with average yields, meet requirements. Plantings ranging from maintenance of the 1944 acreage up to an 8 per cent increase are recommended.

Snap Beans. In the 10 years prior to 1942 annual acreage of snap beans for processing ranged from 31,000 acres in 1932 to 94,000 acres in 1941, averaging 70,000 acres. Under the impact of wartime demand and with the assurance of prices stimulating production to meet the demand, acreage in 1942, 1943, and 1944 made tremendous increase, attaining a record high of 179,000 acres in 1943 and in 1944. This is over double the highest acreage of any pre-war year.

Canners experienced some difficulty

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CROP REPORT FOR FRUITS AND VEGETABLES ISSUED

Fruit Production Down Slightly from Earlier Estimates; Truck Crops Are Up

November reports on fruits issued by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics show a total of little over 16 million tons, a million tons below prospects a month ago but still above production in any past year. Due chiefly to the hurricane that crossed Florida, the United States prospects for the orange and tangerine crop now being harvested (excluding California Valencias and summer grapefruit) have been reduced to 70 million boxes and grapefruit to 46 million boxes. These estimates are 11 million and 15 million boxes respectively below estimates made before the storm.

Combined production of the eight major deciduous fruits (apples, peaches, pears, grapes, cherries, plums, prunes, and apricots), for 1944 is now expected to be 20 per cent above the 1943 production and 9 per cent larger than average. Among these fruits the following per-

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Hearing on Regulations to Define Area of Production to be Held in New York December 12 by Wage and Hour Administration

Announcement was made in the *Federal Register* for November 14 of a hearing to be held on December 12 in New York City by the Wage and Hour and Public Contracts Divisions of the U. S. Department of Labor on proposed regulations to define "area of production." It will be recalled that last June the United States Supreme Court ruled that the definition of "area of production" exemption granted by Section 13(a)(10) of the Fair Labor Standards Act, which provides a complete exemption from both the minimum wage and maximum hour requirements, was invalid insofar as it attempted to define the "area of production" in terms of the number of employees in a canning plant. The Court then suggested that the Administrator promptly make a new definition. (*Addison* v. *Holly Hill Fruit Products, Inc.*, discussed in detail in INFORMATION LETTER No. 989, June 10, 1944, p. 8256).

The proposed regulations would apply only to the definition of "area of production" with respect to fresh fruits and vegetables. Two alternative proposals, which are said to be the result of industry conferences and a study by the Division, will be the subject of the hearing.

As a general matter, the proposed alternative definitions appear designed to maintain the Wage and Hour method of differentiating between urban-industrial and rural agricultural areas.

The first proposal is that the "area of production" will be defined in terms of a canning plant located in a *county*, in which the total acreage harvested of fruits and vegetables in the county is 20 per cent or more of the total crop land harvested in the county. It is also required that the plant be located in the "open country" or in a "rural community" which terms are defined to exclude any city or town of 2,500 or greater population, or any area within varying distances of a town or city increasing with the size of the city.

The second proposal is based upon

proximity to plant—population density standards. The 20 per cent county acreage standard of the first proposal would be supplanted by the requirement that the *plant* obtain 95 per cent or more of the *dollar value* of *its products* from farms in the "immediate locality" of the plant. "Immediate locality" is then defined in terms of miles from the plant, increasing as the density per square mile of population decreases. For example, "immediate locality" would be ten miles in a State having a population density of more than 50 persons per square mile, but would be 20 miles in a State having a population density of less than 20 persons per square mile.

It will be noticed that under the first proposal the "area of production" may vary from year to year, and that under the second the exemption might apply in one workweek but not in the next.

These two proposals are apparently derived from a study prepared by the Economics Branch of the Wage and Hour and Public Contracts Division, which describes the various possible methods by which "area of production" can be defined. This report will be included in the evidence at the hearing.

Any interested person is allowed to appear at the hearing to present evidence. If a personal appearance is to be made, a notice of intention to appear must be filed with the Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, United States Department of Labor, 165 West 46th Street, New York 19, N. Y., by not later than December 2, 1944. This notice of intention to appear must state the name and address of the person appearing and the branch of the industry in which he is concerned; the names and addresses of any persons or organizations which the person is representing; whether the appearance is to be made in support of or in opposition to the proposed regulations and what other amendments will be proposed; and finally, the approximate amount of time required for the presentation of the evidence.

Writen statements in place of a personal appearance may be mailed to the Administrator, but all written statements must be filed with the Administrator before the date of the hearing.

The text of the two proposed definitions follows:

An individual shall be regarded as employed within the area of production within the meaning of section 13 (a) (10), if he is so engaged in an establishment which is located in a county in which the total of the acreage harvested in all fruits and vegetables is 20 per cent or more of the crop land harvested (according to the latest official United States Census of Agriculture), and is located in the open country or in a rural community. As used in this paragraph "open country" or "rural community" shall not include any city or town of 2,500 or greater population according to the latest available United States Census, or any area within:

3 miles of a town or city with a population of 2,500 to 9,999 or 6 miles of a city with a population of 10,000 to 24,999, or 10 miles of a city with a population of 25,000 to 99,999, or 20 miles of a city with a population of 100,000 or greater as measured by the shortest usable road from the town or city limits;

It has also been proposed that the "area of production" as defined in § 536.2 (a) be redefined with respect to fresh fruits and vegetables as follows:

An individual shall be regarded as employed in the area of production within the meaning of section 13 (a) (10), if he is so engaged in an establishment which is located in the open country or in a rural community and which obtained during the workweek 95 per cent or more of the dollar value of its products from farms in its immediate locality. As used in this paragraph "open country" or "rural community" shall not include any city or town of 2,500 or greater population according to the latest available United States Census or any area within:

3 miles of a town or city with a population of 2,500 to 9,999, or 6 miles of a city with a population of 10,000 to 24,999, or 10 miles of a city with a population of 25,000 to 99,999, or 20 miles of a city with a population of 100,000 or greater measured by the shortest usable road from the town or city limits;

and "immediate locality" shall mean any distance, as measured by the shortest usable road, of not more than:

10 miles in a State with a density of population of more than 50 per square mile, or

15 miles in a State with a density of population 20 to 50 per square mile, or 20 miles in a State with a density of population less than 20 per square mile according to the latest available United States Census.

Pricing Method 2 is Effective

Because Amendment 15 (Pricing Method No. 2) to Supplement 7 to Food Products Regulation 1 had not been filed with the Division of the *Federal Register* by the Office of Price Administration at the time last week's INFORMATION LETTER went to press, it was impossible to give the effective date of this amendment. The effective date of Amendment 15 is November 17 and the order was published in the November 15 issue of the *Federal Register*.

Copies of Amendment 15 will be mailed all canners not later than the first of next week, the OPA has advised the Association.

The OPA also has requested the Association to remind canners of the subsidy on tomato products since some canners have misinterpreted the pricing of tomato products under Amendment 15 to Supplement 7 under FPR 1. INFORMATION LETTER No. 1008 for October 21 explains the subsidy program for tomato products in detail.

Truck Applications Accepted

The Office of Defense Transportation has announced that applications for certificates of transfer for the purchase of new medium and heavy duty trucks to be built during 1945 may now be made to ODT district offices. Permission to accept and forward such applications to the ODT allocation section in Washington is granted in a memorandum, effective November 13.

Because no light trucks will be manufactured before February, 1945, the ODT has informed its district offices that they may accept and forward to the allocation section light truck applications beginning January 1, 1945. In the meantime, applicants for light trucks will continue to submit a letter from their dealer stating that the truck is available in his stock, giving make, model and serial number and a statement that no certificate of transfer or government exemption permit is held against it.

Stanford Succeeds Donnelly

Commander Alfred Stanford, of the U. S. Navy, has been appointed Deputy Administrator in Charge of Information for the Office of Price Administration, succeeding Tom Donnelly, who recently resigned to return to his professional duties at the University of New Mexico. To make the appointment possible, the Navy Department placed Commander Stanford on inactive duty.

Prior to the war Commander Stanford was vice president of Compton Advertising Inc., a New York marketing, merchandising and advertising firm. He is the author of several books, also.

Processed Prune Prices

The Office of Economic Stabilization, through the issuance of Directive 22, effective November 9, has directed the Office of Price Administration to establish maximum prices for canned, frozen, brined, and preserved prunes processed from fresh prunes produced in Oregon and Washington that will reflect the actual price paid to growers but not to exceed $55 per ton.

CROP REPORT

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centage increases over last year are recorded: Apples 39, peaches 71, pears 20, cherries 75, plums 15, apricots 214. Production of grapes and prunes declined 11 per cent and 20 per cent respectively from 1943. Cranberries are in very short supply—46 per cent below last year.

Except for the heavy storm loss in Florida, October weather was favorable in all citrus States. Aggregate tonnage of all citrus is estimated at 6 per cent less than in 1943-44 but 44 per cent greater than the 10-year (1933-42) average. Aggregate tonnage of grapefruit for 1944-45 is now indicated to be 15 per cent less than in 1943-44 but 44 per cent more than the 10-year average. Indicated aggregate tonnage of oranges is now 4 per cent less than last season but 48 per cent more than the 10-year average.

Aggregate tonnage of fresh market commercial truck crops for the entire 1944 season is expected to approximate 7,756,000 tons, exceeding the 1942 record of 7,013,000 tons by about 11 per cent, 1943 by 17 per cent and the 1933-42 average by 22 per cent. The indicated acreage for harvest of 1,853,000 acres is 18 per cent greater than in 1943 and 9 per cent above average.

The prospective aggregate tonnage of fall vegetable crops on November 1 was only 4 per cent below that of a month earlier and 2 per cent below last year, despite widespread loss and damage in Florida to fall crops of snap beans, cucumbers, eggplant, green peppers, and tomatoes from the mid-October hurricane. Relatively heavy supplies of fall cabbage, lettuce, and green peas were sufficient to maintain production this fall at a level near the 1943 record and 22 per cent above the 1933-42 average. Fall vegetables are expected to be harvested from 262,000 acres this year, an increase of 2 per cent over 1943 and 14 per cent above average.

Preliminary estimates for approximately two-thirds of the 1945 winter vegetable acreage indicate about 10 per cent less acreage this winter than last but about 10 per cent more than the 1934-43 average. Smaller acreages of artichokes, beets, cabbage, kale, lettuce, and spinach, and a larger acreage of winter cauliflower are indicated.

Lima Beans for Processing

According to the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the 1944 preliminary estimated production of green lima beans for processing is 25,620 tons. This production is 6 per cent less than the 1943 production of 27,360 tons but exceeds the 10-year (1933-42) average production of 24,590 tons by 4 per cent.

The revised estimate of the 1944 acreage planted to green lima beans for processing is 65,650 acres. The estimated 1944 harvested acreage is 59,650 acres. The difference between planted and harvested acreage is 6,000 acres. This represents the acreage from which it is estimated no lima beans were harvested and is about 9 per cent of the planted acreage.

The 1944 estimated yield of 859 pounds per acre compares with 900 pounds obtained in 1943 and an average of 1,172 pounds for the 10-year (1933-42) period. This is the lowest yield that has been obtained since 1930 when the average yield was 838 pounds per acre.

State	Acreage 1943	Acreage 1944	Production 1943	Production 1944
	Acres		*Tons (Shelled)*	
New York	800	800	330	320
New Jersey	12,900	12,700	5,220	5,080
Pennsylvania	1,000	1,300	420	580
Ohio	900	1,100	350	550
Michigan	1,900	2,800	660	1,370
Wisconsin	2,700	2,200	1,590	1,170
Delaware	10,800	9,200	4,050	2,990
Maryland	4,300	3,600	1,350	1,080
Virginia	3,900	4,800	1,400	1,510
Utah	1,050	850	710	540
Washington	600	500	340	300
California	3,750	4,700	2,490	3,520
Other States	16,210	15,100	8,450	6,610
Total	60,810	59,650	27,360	25,620

Pimientos for Processing

The 1944 preliminary estimate of production of pimientos for processing in California and Georgia is 9,520 tons, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. This exceeds the 1943 production of 8,570 tons by 11 per cent and compares with the 10-year (1933-42) average production of 17,700 tons.

The 1944 acreage of pimientos harvested in California and Georgia is estimated at 6,780 acres. This is about 24 per cent less than the 1943 harvested acreage of 8,890 acres and compares with the 10-year (1933-42) average harvested acreage of 14,030 acres.

The 1944 estimated yield of 1.40 tons per acre compares with .96 tons obtained in 1943 and an average for the 10-year (1933-42) period of 1.28 tons per acre. Conditions were favorable in October for maturing the crop of pimientos and harvesting was expected to continue into November in California and Georgia.

State	Acreage 1943	Acreage 1944	Production 1943	Production 1944
	Acres	*Acres*	*Tons*	*Tons*
California	190	380	740	1,520
Georgia	8,700	6,400	7,830	8,000
Total	8,890	6,780	8,570	9,520

Cucumbers for Pickles

The 1944 preliminary estimate of 7,700,000 bushels of cucumbers for pickles exceeds the 1943 production of 6,238,000 bushels by 23 per cent and the 10-year (1933-42) average production of 5,892,000 bushels by 31 per cent, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reports. These estimates include cucumbers sterilized in glass or tin containers but they exclude green cucumbers processed as "over-night dill" and similar type pickles.

The revised estimate of the acreage planted in 1944 to pickling cucumbers is 106,590 acres. The preliminary estimate of acreage harvested this year is 96,820 acres. The difference between the acreage planted and the acreage harvested is 9,770 acres. This is about 9 per cent of the planted acreage.

The 1944 yield of cucumbers for pickles is estimated at 79.5 bushels per acre. This compares with the 1943 yield of 73.8 bushels and the 10-year (1933-42) average yield of 67.4 bushels per acre. In 1944 the yield of cucumbers for pickles was somewhat above average in practically all important States except Indiana, Texas and Washington.

State	Acreage 1943	Acreage 1944	Production 1943	Production 1944
	Acres	*Acres*	*1,000 bushels*	
Massachusetts	540	1,000	92	113
New York	500	950	42	95
Ohio	3,150	2,000	158	134
Indiana	3,400	4,100	170	148
Illinois	1,700	1,870	90	108
Michigan	22,800	24,700	1,186	1,630
Wisconsin	13,600	19,300	1,319	1,679
Minnesota	1,900	1,000	124	66
Iowa	700	1,600	44	99
Missouri	800	1,100	26	66
Maryland	3,500	3,500	301	301
Virginia	3,000	4,200	261	294
North Carolina	5,200	6,200	411	533
Louisiana	250	250	19	18
Texas	4,600	2,000	212	72
Colorado	1,650	1,500	234	302
Washington	300	650	49	75
Oregon	1,200	1,300	180	273
California	2,240	2,250	466	518
Other States	13,470	17,350	854	1,176
Total	84,500	96,820	6,238	7,700

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in marketing snap beans during 1944 and the Government purchased considerable quantities under their support program. Estimated requirements of 206.6 thousand tons could be obtained on a planted acreage of 132,400 acres assuming 1937-41 average yields.

Beets. Preliminary estimates point to a record planting of 22,200 acres of beets for canning in 1944. This is 16 per cent more than the 1943 plantings and 64 per cent more than the preceding 1937-41 period.

A 1944 production of 145,300 tons of beets for canning is indicated. This would be 4 per cent more than the 1943 production of 139,500 tons, 10 per cent more than the 1942 production and almost twice the average production during the five-year (1937-41) period.

Requirements for beets in 1945 can be met on an acreage of 14,770 acres with average yields. This is 67 per cent of the 1944 planted acreage but 9 per cent over the five-year (1937-41) average acreage. If civilian demand is recognized in computing requirements, rather than taking the non-civilian needs plus minimum quantities for civilians, a production of 111,600 tons of beets would appear desirable. With favorable growing conditions for obtaining average yields, a planted acreage of 19,400 acres, or 12 per cent below the 1944 acreage, would give this production.

Broccoli. The 1944 pack of frozen broccoli is estimated at 9,000,000 pounds, an increase of 50 per cent over 1943 and more than 3½ times the five-year (1937-41) average. This rapid expansion reflects increased wartime demand and greater consumer purchasing power, as well as the growing popularity of this vegetable.

Before planning any increase in their 1945 acreage, broccoli growers should consider the possibility of a slight decline in consumer buying power in 1945, a decline which may be expected to affect the higher priced food items sooner than more staple items, together with the fact that prices for fresh broccoli were generally lower in 1944 than in 1943. They should also remember that the amount of frozen vegetables that may be placed in cold storage is restricted and that frozen broccoli is a competitor with the fresh product throughout the year.

Cabbage for Kraut. In 1944 it is expected that approximately 20,000 acres of cabbage for sauerkraut will be harvested. This is about the same as the ten-year (1933-42) average. Average production for the ten-year (1933-42) period was 161,000 tons with considerable variation from this figure in individual years ranging from 95,400 to 215,700 tons. Production in 1944 is expected to be considerably less than average due to unfavorable yields particularly in New York. Current prices may influence growers to expand their acreage in 1945.

Estimated reqirements for kraut in 1945 of 113,000 tons for cans do not indicate a need for increased production. However, if tin should become available, a production of approximately 150,000 tons appears desirable. An acreage slightly over 14,000 acres (or 70 per cent of 1944) would meet minimum requirements while an acreage only 10 per cent below 1944 would be needed to meet the higher requirements. The reduction should occur primarily in New York and Wisconsin where increases above the ten-year (1933-42) average have been made.

Carrots. There are no separate estimates made of carrots for fresh market and for processing. Therefore, acreage sufficient to produce estimated requirements for both categories was suggested in the "Production Guide Statement" for vegetables for fresh market.

The acreage suggested should, with average yields, produce approximately 1,048 million pounds of carrots in 1945 compared with estimated requirements (fresh and processed) of 977 million pounds. Estimated requirements of 123 million pounds for processing in 1945 comprise about 12 per cent of total requirements for carrots. The estimated 1944 requirements of 124 million pounds for processing represents approximately 10 per cent of the indicated 1944 production.

Sweet Corn. Following the 1942 season when a record production of 1,282,500 tons were harvested from a record of 517,620 acres planted, growers planted 552,110 acres or nearly 6 per cent more land to this crop for processing in 1943.

Estimates place the 1943 tonnage of sweet corn at 1,162,000 tons. This is nearly 10 per cent below the production obtained in 1942. The 1943 production was nearly a third larger than the average of 877,840 tons harvested during the five-year (1937-41) period. October 1 indications point to a production of 1,080,400 tons on the 526,380 acres planted in 1944.

The high prices paid to growers for sweet corn helped maintain the large acreage from 1942 to 1944. From a five-year (1937-41) average of $9.69 per ton, prices were raised to $13.44 in 1942 and $18.36 per ton in 1943. Prices were supported by the Government in 1944 at levels which may reflect averages in different parts of the country ranging from $17 to $28 a ton to growers.

The canned pack of sweet corn totaled 32.1 million standard cases in 1942 and 28.8 million cases in 1943. A production in 1944 of 1,080,400 tons is expected to result in about 24 million cases which is nearly the same size pack as in 1941. This makes four years in succession when the pack has been large.

Estimated requirements for 1945 are 10 per cent greater than the indicated production for 1944, or about 1,123 thousand tons farm weight basis. Yields were considerably below average in 1944. Thus, a total planted acreage of 505,740 acres should be adequate, assuming favorable conditions for average yields of 2.22 tons to meet these requirements. This acreage is 4 per cent below the 1944 planted acreage, but exceeds the average plantings for the 1937-41 period of 373,790 acres by 35 per cent.

Cucumbers for Pickles. The estimate of acreage planted in 1944 to cucumbers for pickles is 99,280 acres. This exceeds the 1943 planted acreage of 96,600 acres by about 3 per cent but the 1942 acreage estimated at 124,290 acres was 25 per cent more.

Dry weather adversely affected the 1944 crop. The condition of the crop on September 1 was the lowest for any recent year. Because of this and the labor shortage, last year's production of 6,055,000 bushels may not be equaled this season.

Prices paid in 1943 to growers of pickling cucumbers averaged $0.96 per bushel, the highest on record. In 1942, it was $0.80 and for 1937-41 the average was $0.61 per bushel.

An acreage approximately the same as in 1944 would appear desirable. This is substantially the same as the five-year (1937-41) average.

Green Peas. From a planted acreage of 476,200 acres of peas for processing, a record acreage of 445,880 was harvested in 1944. This is an increase of 3 per cent over 1943 and 39 per cent larger than the five-year (1937-41) average. Production was 10 per cent smaller than in 1943, while the 1944 pack of canned peas was estimated to be 12 per cent smaller and the frozen pea pack 18 per cent larger than in 1943. About 88 per cent of the peas for processing in 1944 were canned and 12 per cent frozen.

Prices were supported by the Government in 1944 at levels which would reflect averages in different parts of the country ranging from $71 to $91 a ton to growers. This compares with an average price received by growers in 1943 of $80.03 and a 1937-41 average of $49.90.

Cold storage holdings of frozen peas on September 1, 1944 totaled 60,286,000 pounds, an increase of 15 per cent over September 1, 1943 and 57 per cent over the five-year September 1 average (1938-42). Restrictions on the use of cold storage space may tend to limit the increase of the frozen pack in 1945.

Estimated requirements for peas for processing in 1945 are the same as the 1944 pack. Allowing 4 per cent for abandoned acreage and with average

yields, plantings of 459,510 acres, a reduction of 4 per cent below 1944, would meet requirements. This acreage is 37 per cent above the 1937-41 average.

Pimientos. Acreage of pimientos for processing in California and Georgia amounted to 7,280 acres in 1944, a decline of 18 per cent from 1943 and slightly more than half of the 1933-42 average. Growers received an average price of $50.53 a ton in 1943, compared with $41.84 in 1942 ond a 1937-41 average of $31.27 a ton. Maintenance of present acreage is recommended.

Pumpkin and Squash. The 1944 pack of canned pumpkin and squash is estimated at 2,200,000 cases (basis 24/No. 2 cans), an increase of 5 per cent over the 1943 pack but 15 per cent below the 1937-41 average. The 1944 pack of frozen squash and pumpkin is estimated at 8,000,000 pounds—an increase of 14 per cent over 1943 and 10 times the 1937-41 average. Restrictions on the use of cold storage space may tend to check the increase in the frozen pack for 1945. The amount to be grown for canning will depend upon the availability of tin.

Spinach. In pre-war years (1937-41) the acreage planted to spinach for processing ranged from 20,000 acres to 30,000 acres. This acreage more than doubled in 1942 to slightly in excess of 46,000 acres.

Estimated requirements for 1945 are approximately one-third less than requirements for 1944. With average yields, an acreage of 38,220 acres in Maryland, Virginia, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas and California would meet estimated needs. Other States for which acreage and production estimates are not made will furnish some additional spinach. This acreage is 2 per cent less than the 1943 acreage but 66 per cent over the 1937-41 average.

Tomatoes. The estimated planted acreage of 605,650 in 1944 is 9 per cent larger than that harvested in 1943 and 36 per cent larger than the 1937-41 average harvested acreage. Barring early frosts, a record production for 1944 is indicated 20 per cent larger than 1943 and 47 per cent larger than the 1937-41 average. Prices were supported by the Government in 1944 at levels which would reflect averages to growers in different parts of the country ranging from $24 to $29 a ton. This compared with an estimated average of $26.14 in 1943 and a five-year (1937-41) average of $12.90 a ton.

Estimated requirements for 1945 for canned tomatoes and tomato products have been placed at 2,882 thousand tons. With average yields (1937-41) and no more than the usual abandoned acreage, this requirement would be met on a planted acreage of 626,640—3 per cent larger than 1944 plantings and 46 per cent above the 1937-41 average.

VEGETABLES GROWN FOR PROCESSING—SUGGESTED GOALS FOR 1945

Commodity	Estimated 1945 requirements (million lbs.) (farm weight)	Per cent 1945 requirements are of the packs for: 1944 indic.	1943	1942	1937-41	Planted acreage: 1945 suggested	1944 indic.	1943	1942	1937-41	Per cent 1945 planted acreage is of: 1944 indic.	1943	1942	1937-41
Tomatoes	5,765.1	103	100	100	...	626,640	605,650	602,430	627,050	429,480	103	104	100	146
Sweet corn	2,245.5	110	92	85	136	505,740	526,380	553,110	517,620	373,790	96	91	98	135
Green peas	753.6	100	91	91	140	459,510	476,200	484,260	475,090	334,670	96	95	97	137
Snap beans	413.1	100	81	79	179	132,400	179,040	179,300	139,300	72,220[1]	74	74	95	183
Sub-total	9,177.3	104	101	94	149	1,724,290	1,787,270	1,819,100	1,759,060	1,210,160	96	96	98	142
Asparagus	203.7	100	108	106	...	40,400	40,400	40,400	48,460	45,980	100	...	...	88
Beans, lima	79.1	140	113	89	127	71,520	66,090	64,220	75,630	53,520	108	111	95	134
Beets	174.9	57	70	60	120	14,770[2]	22,200	19,200	17,960	13,510	...	...	...	...
Cabbage (kraut)	227.0[3]	...	...	...	...	14,180[2]	20,200	15,550	15,350	22,140	...	...	...	...
Carrots	123.0	113	113	121	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...
Cucumbers	199.1	...	...	...	...	99,280	99,280	96,660	124,290	98,680	100	...	...	101
Pumpkin and squash	193.3	125	126	132	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...
Pimientos	.....	...	...	...	...	7,280	7,280	.....	.....	.....	100	...	...	...
Spinach	223.2	80	99	83	182	38,220	42,900	39,030	46,240	23,020	89	98	83	166
Other leafy green	588.4	94	122	172	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...
Miscellaneous	130.3	206	239	308	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...
Total	11,319.3	104	103	98	...	2,009,940[2]	2,085,620	2,094,160	2,086,990	1,467,010	96	96	96	137

[1] Does not add to total State averages due to short-time averages. [2] Acreage to meet requirements only. Possible civilian demands may indicate need for higher acreage; beets, 19,400 acres; cabbage, 18,180 acres, thereby bringing the total suggested acreage to 2,018,570. [3] Tin pack only.

Alaska Salmon Pack Report

The season's pack in Alaska, from which comes 95 per cent of the U. S. supply of canned salmon, was the smallest since 1925. Adding to the scarcity as far as civilians are concerned is the fact that the Government has reserved about two-thirds of the 1944 pack for military and Lend-lease purposes, instead of the 60 per cent set aside for the Government last year.

The Alaska pack this year totaled 4,856,330 cases, compared with 5,428,318 cases in 1943. In addition, about 240,000 cases were packed in the United States, a somewhat smaller than normal production.

The sharpest decline occurred in the valuable Red salmon, caught chiefly in Bristol Bay. The pack of this species fell from 1,980,827 cases in 1943 to 1,567,735 this year. Pink salmon, most important species from the standpoint of quantity caught, declined from 2,333,312 to 2,079,306 cases. The pack of other species was as follows: Chum, 989,602 cases; Coho, 185,946 cases; King, 33,741 cases.

	1943	1944
REGIONS	*Cases*	*Cases*
Western Alaska	1,361,474	1,027,036
Central Alaska	2,158,676	1,872,049
Southeastern Alaska	1,888,851	1,957,245
Total	5,409,001	4,856,330
VARIETIES		
Red	1,980,827	1,567,735
Pink	2,333,312	2,079,306
Chum	888,020	989,602
Coho	160,193	185,946
King	46,649	33,741
Total	5,409,001	4,856,330

Container Committee Meets

The N. C. A. Technical Committee on Containers met on November 14 and 15 at the Association offices to consider possible recommendations regarding the 1945 revision of Conservation Order M-81. The schedules of the order were discussed in the light of commercial experience and the results of experimental studies on service life of substitute containers.

On the second day of the meeting representatives of the War Production Board and War Food Administration summarized for the Committee the current tin situation and tentative plans for the revision of Order M-81. The Committee agreed to forward its recommendations to the government agencies for consideration in revising the order.

Bulletin Lists Studies Made in Dusting for Pea Aphid

Canners in Wisconsin and elsewhere have been following with interest the studies that have been underway in that State on the physical properties of dusts for pea aphid control. According to the annual report (Bulletin 463) of the Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Station, the effectiveness of insecticidal dusts used to control pea aphids depends partly on the particle size, electrostatic charge, and mineralogic nature of the dispersant.

That some dispersants are more suitable than others has been well known for a number of years, but much remains to be learned about the specific factors involved.

One of the most critical—and up to now the least understood—of these factors is the electrostatic charge. It is partly because they affect the charge that the particle size and mineralogic nature are important.

The Wisconsin Station's investigations on the electrostatic charge now have progressed to a point where it is possible to outline a theory to account for its effect:

1. Dust particles, in passing through tubes such as are used on dusting machines to deliver insecticide to the nozzles, accumulate an electrical charge which may be negative or positive, depending on the material used.

2. The dust cloud induces an opposite charge in the area immediately outside it, including the foliage of plants which the dust approaches. That is, a negatively-charged dust imparts a positive charge on pea vines.

3. Since opposite charges attract one another, a charged dust is drawn closely to the plant, dispersing its particles finely, and thus giving good coverage.

The effectiveness of Pyrax pyrophyllite, the dispersant now commonly used in pea aphid dust, is partly accounted for by the fact that it carries a high negative charge.

Studies have shown that samples of mineral consisting predominantly of pyrophyllite are made up of varying proportions of pyrophyllite, quartz, and mica, and that their mineral composition helps determine the effectiveness of rotenone insecticides prepared with these dispersants.

Indications are that a mineral made up of 40 to 60 per cent pyrophyllite, along with 30 to 40 per cent quartz and 10 to 20 per cent mica, constitutes as effective a dispersant as is known today, providing the particle size is suitable. This is on the basis of trials with 47 minerals.

A long series of trials indicated how mixing various minerals with standard dispersants affects the latter's electrostatic charge. One of the significant findings is that the oxides of silicon—particularly quartz—are the principle source of the negative charges which characterize most pyrophyllites and talcs.

Pure pyrophyllite and pure talc are not as good dispersants for rotenone as are combinations of one or the other with considerable quantities of quartz.

Studies along this line eventually should make it possible to concoct dispersants superior to any now in use. One material getting a good deal of attention is Wisconsin talc, which produces a rather high negative electrostatic charge.

Leonard D. Peterson Killed in Action, Navy Has Reported

Lieutenant Leonard D. Peterson, 27, former National Canners Association staff member, has been reported killed in action somewhere in the Asiatic theater. Lieutenant Peterson, an aviation enthusiast and the first of five N.C.A. employees to join the armed forces, volunteered and was accepted for service in the Naval Reserve in June, 1941. At the time of his death Lieutenant Peterson was serving with the Naval Air Forces as torpedo plane pilot, but further details as to where and how he was killed have not been released by the Navy Department.

His ground work was completed at the Anacostia Naval Air Station at Washington, D. C., and he received his wings at the Jacksonville (Florida) Naval Air Station, where he served as an instructor before being sent to California for combat training. He was assigned to an aircraft carrier and sent overseas shortly after the first of the year.

Lieutenant Peterson joined the Association's staff on December 5, 1938, as an employee of the Division of Statistics. He was born at Dayton, Ohio, December 26, 1916, and received his education at Ohio State University and George Washington University. At George Washington University he majored in statistics and was graduated with distinction.

Correction

In last week's INFORMATION LETTER, E. R. Lancashire's name was inadvertently misspelled due to a typographical error. Mr. Lancashire is in charge of the Blytheville Canning Co., at Blytheville, Ark.

Vegetable Breeding and Variety Studies Reported

Some of the latest information on the selection and breeding of lima beans, tomatoes, snap beans, and corn appears in Bulletin 435, a report of the Washington Agricultural Experiment Station at Pullman. The following was condensed from the bulletin:

Vegetable varieties that were outstanding in trials at the Irrigation Branch Station were Fordhook (concentrated) lima beans, Pioneer and Stringless Blue Lake snap beans, Great Northern U. I. No. 15 dry bean, Kentucky Field pumpkin, and Wasatch Beauty and Bounty tomatoes.

Tomato variety studies in Spokane Valley, initiated in 1937, were discontinued in 1943. Of the many tomato varieties tested, Stokesdale was the most desirable commercial and home variety, being an early, dependable, heavy yielding sort. It was generally grown throughout Spokane and Yakima valleys during 1943 for canning and market. A second promising commercial variety, was Wasatch Beauty, although this variety is approximately one week later in ripening than Stokesdale. Improved Pearson was a promising late variety, to extend the tomato season into the harvesting of green-mature fruits. Bounty, a variety having determinate plant growth, is an early, heavy producing, fair quality tomato. It has too much wood at the stem end to be considered commercially valuable for canning.

Snap bean trials were initiated in Spokane Valley in 1943, but labor shortage interfered somewhat with the work. A similar bean planting was also made at Pullman, where records were taken on 14 green podded bean varieties and 5 yellow podded varieties. Early, high yielding, promising, green podded varieties are Plentiful, Streamliner, and Tendergreen.

Pioneer, a new USDA introduction, is promising, and of high quality when picked at the right stage of maturity. It becomes stringy with age. The bean is a trifle short to be attractive to some buyers. Idaho Refugee is recommended as a late, high yielding snap bean. It should not be grown unless the season is long and water available for irrigation. Yellow podded snap beans of promise are Klinghorn Special Kidney Wax and Roundpodded Kidney Wax.

Of the sweet corn varieties planted at the Main Station, Extra Early (Robson), Marcross, Seneca Golden and Spancross were the earliest to mature their ears. Of the late varieties, Golden Cross continued to lead in quality and production.

Frozen Fruit and Vegetable Stocks Held in Cold Storage

Stocks of frozen fruits in storage on November 1, 1944, totaled 300,922,000 pounds against 298,059,000 on October 1, 1944, and 243,547,000 on November 1, 1943, according to the War Food Administration. Frozen vegetable stocks on November 1, 1944, were 187,437,000 pounds against 178,394,000 pounds on October 1 this year, and 190,243,000 pounds on November 1, 1943. The follow table furnishes details by commodities:

	Nov. 1, 1943	Oct. 1, 1944	Nov. 1, 1944
FROZEN FRUITS	*1,000 lbs.*	*1,000 lbs.*	*1,000 lbs.*
Apples	.....	7,424	10,839
Blackberries	12,216	14,520	12,700
Cherries	34,204	47,076	41,553
Young, Logan, Boysen	5,358	10,550	9,155
Raspberries	18,871	16,500	14,617
Strawberries	29,546	25,526	22,465
Grapes	.....	12,746	21,985
Plums and prunes	.....	15,210	15,338
Peaches	.....	32,578	35,880
Fruit juices and purees	.....	15,864	20,092
*All other fruits	153,352	100,065	96,298
Total	243,547	298,059	300,922
FROZEN VEGETABLES			
Asparagus	5,641	5,867	5,415
Beans, lima	13,199	9,033	13,347
Beans, snap	15,348	17,282	16,546
Broccoli	1,367	2,631	3,584
Cauliflower	.....	1,084	1,783
Corn, sweet	18,299	16,381	19,807
Peas, green	50,834	58,279	50,928
Spinach	9,884	9,793	11,417
Brussel sprouts	.....	1,929	2,009
Pumpkin and squash	.....	3,061	6,684
Baked beans	.....	3,747	3,451
Vegetable purees	.....	676	530
All other vegetables	75,671	48,641	51,936
Total	190,243	178,394	187,437

* Includes some fruits named above but reported as "miscellaneous." Since July, 1944, blueberries have been included in "all other fruits."

New Peach Varieties Studied

For several years the South Carolina Experiment Station has carried on peach breeding research to develop improved varieties and at the Station's canning laboratory has compared the canning characteristics of these new varieties with the commercial varieties that may be grown in the State.

A group of technologists met at Clemson College recently and examined 46 varieties that have been grown, harvested, canned and frozen by the Station scientists in charge of this work. There were wide variations in the color, texture, appearance and flavor of the different varieties. A few of the canned samples examined were of excellent quality. On invitation of the Experiment Station, Mr. H. R. Smith of the N. C. A.'s Washington Research Laboratory attended the meeting.

The meeting at Clemson was immediately following the 21st annual meeting of the South Carolina Peach Growers Association, held at Spartanburg on November 15, at which growers were shown the results of the 1944 studies on peach varieties. The Peach Growers Association is working closely with the Horticulture Department at Clemson College, S. C.

Canners Receive "A" Awards

Ten additional canning plants have been given the War Food Administration achievement "A" award for outstanding performance in food processing. Plants to receive the award are:

Maine—J. C. Grant & Son, Clinton; Holmes Packing Co., Eastport; Machiasport Canning Co., Eastport; Seaboard Packing Co., plants at Lubec and Robbinston.

New York—H. J. Heinz Co., Medina.

Illinois—Armour & Co., plants at Petersburg and Sullivan.

Montana—Bitter Root Canning Co., Hamilton.

Kentucky — Morton Packing Co., Louisville.

Stocks of Canned Peas

The civilian supply of canned peas from the 1944 pack is estimated at 17,800,000* cases, equivalent No. 2's, compared with the civilian supply from the 1943 pack of 28,400,000 cases, according to figures compiled by the Association's Division of Statistics. The total civilian stocks on November 1, 1944, are shown above as 6,745,124 actual cases, and shipments during the month of October, 1944, as 2,335,972 actual cases. These compare with November 1, 1943, civilian stocks of 11,898,000 cases, equivalent No. 2's, and shipments during the month of October, 1943, of 3,944,000 cases, equivalent No. 2's, as reported to the Office of Price Administration.

The report shown below lists actual cases and is based on reports from canners who packed 72 per cent of the 1944 pack together with estimates for those not reporting.

	Civilian Stocks October 1, 1944	Civilian Stocks November 1, 1944	Civilian Shipments during October 1944
N. Y. and Me.	*Cases*	*Cases*	*Cases*
Alaskas	4,748	1,589	3,159
Sweets	781,040	619,347	161,693
Mid-Atlantic			
Alaskas	326,320	152,525	173,804
Sweets	90,082	63,959	26,123
Mid-West			
Alaskas	2,309,144	1,629,404	679,740
Sweets	2,276,983	1,859,513	417,470
Western			
Alaskas	338,354	228,388	109,966
Sweets	2,954,416	2,190,399	764,017
Total U. S.:			
Alaskas	2,978,575	2,011,906	966,669
Sweets	6,102,521	4,733,218	1,369,303

Baker Succeeds Carroll in OPA

Geoffrey Baker, assistant director of the Food Price Division of the Office of Price Administration since October, 1943, has been named Director of that Division, replacing Jean F. Carroll, whose resignation to return to private industry became effective November 15.

Mr. Baker came to OPA as Chief of the Grocery Products Branch in March, 1942. In 1943 he spent three months in the Food Requirements Division of Lend-Lease, before returning to OPA. His work in private industry includes eight and one-half years as merchandising executive for General Foods Sales Co., Inc.

John F. Gismond, former price executive of OPA's Fruit and Vegetable Branch, will become assistant director of the Food Price Division. Edward F. Phelps, Jr., will take over Mr. Gismond's former post, in addition to his present position as price executive of the Wholesale-Retail Food Branch.

Mr. Gismond, who has been with OPA since June, 1942, was associated for 11 years with the Quaker Maid Co., Inc., New York, N. Y. Mr. Phelps was connected with the E. S. Kibbe Company, wholesale grocers of Hartford, Conn., for 10 years before he began work for OPA in May, 1942.

Refrigerator Car Order Amended

The Interstate Commerce Commission has amended its refrigerator car service order, effective November 15, to permit the transportation of canned foods in all types of refrigerator cars except Standard, PFE and SFRD types in the States of California, Arizona, and New Mexico. Previously the use of refrigerator cars for the transportation of canned goods to points within these States was prohibited.

(See INFORMATION LETTER No. 1008, dated November 4, 1944.)

FROZEN VEGETABLE SUBSIDY DETAILS RELEASED BY WFA

The War Food Administration will distribute immediately among certified freezers of fresh green peas, sweet corn and snap beans copies of an agreement designed to enable them to receive reimbursement payments for eligible civilian sales of these frozen vegetables based upon the difference between the grower support price paid to growers and the 1942 average price reflected in civilian ceilings for such products.

Under the reimbursement program, payments will be made to certified freezers (including those that grow their own vegetables) who have purchased green peas, sweet corn and snap beans from growers at appropriate grower support prices and whose plants have been certified for freezing by the State Agricultural Conservation Committee in the State in which each plant is located.

Copies of the agreement are being mailed immediately to certified freezers. Additional copies may be obtained from the Fruit and Vegetable Branch, Office of Distribution, War Food Administration, Washington 25, D. C.

Under the agreement, payments will be made on the basis of eligible sales of the frozen products, or on such other basis as may be authorized by the Commodity Credit Corporation.

In the event that certified freezers make open market purchases at less than the grower support prices, the difference in the price paid for individual purchases and the applicable grower support price will be deducted from the payment which otherwise would be made. Open market purchases above such support prices will be computed at the support level.

The reimbursement program, funds for which will be provided by the Commodity Credit Corporation, will extend to green peas and sweet corn frozen between January 1, 1944, through April 30, 1945, and to snap beans frozen between March 1, 1944, through April 30, 1945.

Applications for reimbursement payments should be filed by certified freezers not more than once each calendar month and should *not* include eligible sales made within 10 days prior to date of filing. Applications may be filed up to and including May 31, 1945, but must include only those sales made on or before April 30, 1945. Applicants should furnish such supporting evidence, documents, information and proof as the Commodity Credit Corporation may require.

The table below shows the grower support prices at or above which green peas, snap beans and sweet corn are to be purchased for freezing. Grower prices shown include amendments made since original prices were announced on February 18 and March 4 respectively.

States [1]	Snap beans	Sweet corn	Green peas
	Per ton	*Per ton*	*Per ton*
Maine	$90.00	$28.00	$88.50
New York	100.00	21.00	88.00
Pennsylvania	90.00	.....	90.50
New Jersey	125.50	.....	111.00
Delaware	92.50	19.50	91.00
Maryland	92.50	19.50	91.00
Virginia	92.50	.....	89.50
Tennessee	80.00	.....	.....
Arkansas	.....	.....	.....
Indiana	.....	19.50	.....
Nebraska	.....	.....	.....
Michigan	.....	17.50	.....
Minnesota	80.00	17.50	82.50
Wisconsin	.....	17.50	85.00 [2]
Utah	.....	.....	88.50
California	110.00	17.00	74.00
Oregon	110.00	23.00	98.00 [3]
Washington	110.00	23.00	79.00 [4]

[1] Estimated State or area average grower prices that freezers would pay under the support prices announced by the WFA if the deliveries made to freezers are average with respect to sieve size, maturity, variety, etc. [2] Southeast Wisconsin. [3] Except Malheur County. [4] Except in the Skagit-Snohomish area, including Skagit, Snohomish and King counties, which is $89.00.

Canned Citrus Products Given "Adjustable Pricing" by OPA

Provision for "adjustable pricing" of canned citrus products to be sold to Government agencies was effected November 17 through the issuance of Order No. 2 to Supplement 5 to Food Products Regulation No. 1. Under the "adjustable pricing" provision, sales and deliveries of packed citrus products may be made by canners to Government agencies only, subject to an agreement between the buyer and seller, in each case, that the final price shall be determined after new ceiling prices are announced.

Official text of the order follows:

For the reasons set forth in an opinion issued simultaneously herewith and in accordance with section 12 (j) of Supplement 5 to Food Products Regulation No. 1, *It is ordered:*

(a) That sales and deliveries of the packed citrus products covered by Supplement 5 to Food Products Regulation No. 1 of the 1945 pack may be made by processors to Government procurement agencies, subject to an agreement between the buyer and seller in each case, that the price shall be determined pursuant to action taken by the Office of Price Administration after delivery.

In any such sale the processor shall not invoice the goods at a price higher than the maximum price in effect at the time of delivery, nor shall he receive payment of more than that price until new maximum prices for the 1945 pack of citrus products are established by the Office of Price Administration.

(b) This order shall be automatically revoked as to each product referred to in paragraph (a) upon the establishment by the Office of Price Administration of new maximum prices for it.

This order may be revoked or amended by the Price Administrator at any time.

This order shall become effective November 17, 1944.

Minimum Wage Hearings Held

Hearings were held November 17 and 18 on Senator Claude Pepper's resolution to raise the Nation's minimum wage level from 40 to 65 cents per hour. Representatives of labor, business, and Government testified before the special Senate Labor Subcommittee holding the hearings on the Pepper resolution.

African Fisheries Promising

Production of fisheries products in the Union of South Africa is one of the most promising industries from the standpoint of potential resources but is probably the least developed in relation to its importance to the Union's economy, the U. S. Department of Commerce reports. It is estimated that the fishing industry represents capital investment of about $6,000,000 and provides direct and indirect employment for 60,000 persons.

Renegotiation Act Extended

President Roosevelt by a proclamation issued November 15 extended the life of the Renegotiation Act until June 30, 1945. The Act would have expired on December 31, 1944, if the President had not extended it for another period of six months.

The President was given the power by Congress to extend the Renegotiation Act for a maximum period of not more than six months.

Tangerine Ceilings Increased

The ceiling price for Florida tangerines has been increased 53 cents per 1⅗ bushels for the remainder of 1944, effective November 16, the Office of Price Administration has announced. The increase was granted growers because of the losses they sustained in the recent hurricane which damaged Florida citrus fruit and vegetable crops.